

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 18275 031424Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13
OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 SMS-02 /076 W
-----074655 040522Z /17

R 031403Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5117
USICA WASHDC

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION MOSCOW DATED 27 JUL 78 H/W REPEATED
TO YOU FOR INFO

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LENINGRAD 02068

3.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, SOPN, UR, US
SUBJECT: PROPOSED PROTEST OVER HARASSMENT OF IREX GRANTEE
LEVIN-STANKEVICH

1. CONGEN HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM FORMER IREX GRANTEE
LEVIN-STANKEVICH OUTLINING HARASSMENT BY SOVIET BORDER
AUTHORITIES ON TRAIN TO HELSINKI WHEN GRANTEE AND WIFE
DEPARTED IN JUNE. IF EMBASSY SHARES OUR VIEW THAT PROTEST
IS WARRANTED, SUBSTANCE MIGHT RUN AS FOLLOWS:

"IT HAS JUST COME TO OUR ATTENTION THAT AMERICAN
IREX GRANTEE BRIAN LEVIN-STANKEVICH AND HIS WIFE WERE
HARASSED BY SOVIET BORDER AUTHORITIES AS THEY DEPARTED THE
SOVIET UNION BY TRAIN TO HELSINKI IN JUNE. WE HAVE BEEN
INFORMED THAT THESE EXCHANGE STUDENTS WERE SEARCHED FOR
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 18275 031424Z

ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS, INCLUDING A HUMILIATING BODY
SEARCH. THEIR TOOTHPASTE TUBES WERE SQUEEZED OUT AND
THEIR FACIAL SOAP WAS CUT OPEN. AS OSTENSIBLE JUSTIFICATION
FOR THEIR ACTION, THE BORDER AUTHORITIES ACCUSED MR. LEVIN-
STANKEVICH OF HIDING SOMETHING, WHICH THEY DID NOT IDENTIFY

"THE EMBASSY/CONSULATE GENERAL CONSIDERS THIS SORT

OF SEARCH TO BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOR INIMICAL TO THE CIVILIZED EXCHANGE OF PERSONS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES. SUCH TREATMENT BY SOVIET OFFICIALS OF AMERICAN GRANTEES CAN ONLY CALL INTO QUESTION SOVIET COMMITMENT TO THE CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF OUR EDUCATIONAL EXCHANGES.

"WE EXPECT THAT THE OFFICIALS RESPONSIBLE WILL BE SEVERELY REPRIMANDED AND THAT STEPS WILL BE TAKEN TO ASSURE THAT SUCH INCIDENTS DO NOT OCCUR AGAIN."

2. IN ORAL REMARKS, WE WOULD ALSO BE INCLINED TO POINT OUT THAT MRS. LEVIN-STANKEVICH HAD ALREADY SUFFERED AT HANDS OF SOVIET AUTHORITIES WHEN SHE WAS DENIED PERMISSION TO EXIT USSR LAST YEAR IN TIME TO SEE HER MOTHER BEFORE SHE DIED.

3. PLEASE ADVISE HOW YOU WISH HANDLE THIS INCIDENT.

BUCHANAN

UNQUOTE TOON

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PAGE 03 MOSCOW 18275 031424Z

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HARASSMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 aug 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PEPR, PDIP, SOPN, UR, US, (LEVIN-STANKEVICH, BRIAN)
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